

AN ACT

relating to proper venue for filing an application for a protective order against family violence.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 82.003, Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 82.003. VENUE. An application may be filed in:

- (1) the county in which the applicant resides; ~~[or]~~
- (2) the county in which the respondent resides; or
- (3) any county in which the family violence is alleged to have occurred.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to an application for a protective order that is filed on or after the effective date of this Act. An application for a protective order filed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the application is filed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 129 passed the Senate on March 27, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 129 passed the House on May 14, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor